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IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of: comprising (a) the isolated nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or an active fragment thereof, wherein said fragment is at least 200 consecutive nucleotides in length; and (b) a nucleic acid sequence which is at least 95% identical to the nucleic acid sequence of (a) operably linked to a Nic gene product.

2-3 (Canceled).

- 4. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid according to claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid is DNA.
- 5. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid according to claim 1, further comprising a A recombinant nucleic acid construct comprising the isolated nucleic acid of Claim 1, wherein said recombinant nucleic acid construct does not contain a NiQPT1 coding sequence.
- (Previously Presented) The recombinant nucleic acid construct according to claim 5, wherein said recombinant nucleic acid construct is linear.
- 7. (Previously Presented) The recombinant nucleic acid construct according to claim 5, wherein said recombinant nucleic acid construct is circular.
- 8. (Currently Amended) A microparticle coated with the isolated nucleic acid construct according to claim 4 5, wherein said microprarticle microparticle is suitable for transformation of a plant cell.
- 9. (Previously Presented) The recombinant nucleic acid construct according to claim 5, wherein said recombinant nucleic acid construct is an *Agrobacterium* vector.

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IN THE TITLE:

NUCLEIC ACIDS AND METHODS FOR PRODUCING TRANSGENIC PLANTS CONTAINING MOLECULAR DECOYS

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